

bristle comprising:

a core of hard flexible plastic material;

a shaft surrounding said core, said shaft made from a soft elastic plastic material; and

a jacket surrounding said shaft, said jacket made from a material which reinforces said shaft, wherein said core projects past said shaft at a use end of the

bristle to give the bristle a tapered, pointed tip.

35. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft consists essentially of a rubber-elastic plastic material.

36. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft consists essentially of an elastomer.

37. The bristle of claim 34, wherein at least one of said shaft and said jacket extend conically towards a tip of said core.

38. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core has a conical tip.

39. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core and said shaft can be axially displaced relative to one another.

FOOTNOTES, 121901

40. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft and said jacket can be axially displaced relative to one another.
41. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is rounded at its tip.
42. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is made from one of a thermoplastic material, polyamide, and polyester and said shaft consist essentially of a thermoplastic elastomer.
43. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said jacket consists essentially of one of a thermoplastic material, polyamide, and polyester.
44. The bristle of claim 42, wherein said thermoplastic material is one of polyamide, polyethylene, polypropylene, and polyester.
45. The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle extends conically along a partial length of up to 2mm.
46. The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle extends conically along a partial length of between 0.1 and 1mm.
47. The bristle of claim 34, wherein a diameter of said core at said pointed tip is between 0.01 and 0.03mm.

1001465-131001

48. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core can be split at least once in a region of its exposed end and can be spread beginning at said exposed end.

49. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is split at least once proximate its exposed end at locations spaced apart from said exposed end, wherein said split locations bulge elastically when pressure is exerted on said exposed end.

50. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core consists essentially of at least two thin monofilaments.

51. The bristle of claim 34, wherein a cross-section of a material structure of the bristle changes from inside to outside.

52. The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core has a material structure of high elasticity and abrasion resistance and said jacket has high bending strength.

53. The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle is produced through co-extrusion of at least two of said shaft, said core, and said jacket.

10018465, 121901

54. The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle is produced through extrusion of said jacket onto ^a said co-extruded shaft and core.

55. The bristle of claim 34, further comprising abrasive means embedded in at least a region of said soft shaft.

56. The bristle of claim 34, wherein at least said shaft and said core have different colors.

57. Method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein one of the bristle, the monofilament, and a section of the monofilament is conified through grinding by clamping it at a separation from its free end, wherein said core is supported on a circulating grinding surface and set at an inclination with respect to that circulating grinding surface corresponding substantially to a cone angle.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein the bristle, including said core and jacket, is supported on said grinding surface.

59. A method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein said core and said shaft are axially displaced relative to one another until part of a length of said core projects past said shaft.

1003465-121001

60. A method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein said jacket and said shaft are axially displaced relative to one another until a cylindrical partial length of said shaft projects past said jacket.

61. The method of claim 57, wherein at least one of said core, said shaft, and said jacket are stepped, wherein part of a length of at least one of said shaft and said jacket is conical.

62. A brush, comprising a bristle support and a bristle stock mounted thereto, the bristle stock comprising individual bristles or bristles combined into bundles or groups, wherein said bristle stock at least partially comprises the bristles of claim 34.

63. The brush of claim 62, wherein the bristles according to claim 34 are disposed only in defined regions of said bristle stock.

64. The brush of claim 62, wherein said brush is one of a toothbrush and a driven tooth brush.

65. The brush of claim 64, wherein the bristles according to claim 34 are only disposed in defined regions of said bristle stock.

1001845-12191

H2

ind

ind